

DAVID Y. IGE  
GOVERNOR OF HAWAII



**STATE OF HAWAII  
DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES**

POST OFFICE BOX 621  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96809

**CARTY S. CHANG**  
ACTING CHAIRPERSON  
BOARD OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES  
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

FIRST DEPUTY

**WILLIAM M. TAM**  
INTERIM DEPUTY DIRECTOR - WATER

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BOATING AND OCEAN RECREATION  
BUREAU OF CONVEYANCES  
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT  
CONSERVATION AND COASTAL LANDS  
CONSERVATION AND RESOURCES ENFORCEMENT  
ENGINEERING  
FORESTRY AND WILDLIFE  
HISTORIC PRESERVATION  
KAHOOLAWE ISLAND RESERVE COMMISSION  
LAND  
STATE PARKS

**Testimony of  
CARTY CHANG  
Acting Chairperson**

**Before the House Committee on  
OCEAN, MARINE RESOURCES & HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS**

**Wednesday, February 4, 2015  
9:30 am  
State Capitol, Conference Room 325**

**In support of  
HOUSE BILL 207  
RELATING TO TRAINING**

House Bill 207 proposes to mandate that the Office of Hawaiian Affairs (OHA) develop a course on Native Hawaiian rights, and to require members of appropriate state councils, boards and commission to take the course. OHA will bear all expenses related to developing and executing the course. **The Department of Land and Natural Resources' (Department) comments are limited to those boards and commissions under its jurisdiction. As such, the Department supports this measure.**

House Bill 207 notes that it is the duty of all boards and commissions to protect Native Hawaiian traditional and customary rights. However, many appointees to the boards and commissions that have the potential to impact Native Hawaiian traditional and customary rights are not adequately trained in what those rights are, or the tools that they can use to protect those rights.

The Department notes that OHA has offered three such training courses since January 2013, and the Department has sent boards and commission members, as well as staff members, to the course each time. Everyone who attended had high praise for the course and indicated it was well worth their Saturday.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.



**Testimony of Hawai'i Green Growth  
In Support of the Office of Hawaiian Affairs Package Bill HB 207  
House Committee on Ocean, Marine Resources, & Hawaiian Affairs  
4 February 2015, 9:30am, Room 325**

Audrey Newman  
Hawai'i Green Growth  
P.O. Box 535 Ho'olehua, Hawai'i 96729

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*Hawai'i Green Growth is a voluntary partnership of more than 70 state, county, federal, business, and non-governmental leaders from energy, food production, natural resources, waste reduction, planning, green jobs, and other sectors who have come together to support a shared statewide commitment and tangible actions toward sustainability and a model green economy.*

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Aloha Chair Ing, Vice Chair Lowen, and Members of the Committee,

**Hawai'i Green Growth (HGG) supports the Office of Hawaiian Affairs package bill HB207** relating to a Native Hawaiian Law Training Courses. HB207 will help advance action on the *Aloha+ Challenge: A Culture of Sustainability – He Nohona 'Ae'oia*, a joint leadership commitment to sustainability for the State of Hawai'i signed by the Governor, Mayors, and Office of Hawaiian Affairs in July 2014. Native Hawaiian culture and education is a key piece to the *Aloha+ Challenge*, specifically the intent of the Green Workforce and Education 2030 target to "increase local green jobs and education to implement [the Aloha+ Challenge sustainability] targets."

HGG supports the OHA's bill to require a Native Hawaiian Law Training Courses provided by the Office of Hawaiian Affairs for State of Hawai'i's board and commission members to ensure government entities better understand traditional and customary practices, rights and responsibilities (kuleana) regarding Native Hawaiian rights and the public trust doctrine.

Mahalo,

**Audrey Newman**

Senior Advisor, Hawai'i Green Growth (HGG)

*Bringing leaders together to achieve sustainability in Hawai'i & be a model for a green economy*

<http://www.hawaiiingreengrowth.org/>



Testimony Before The  
House Committee on Ocean, Marine Resources & Hawaiian Affairs  
**IN SUPPORT OF HB 207**  
Wednesday, February 4, 2015, 9:30AM, Room 325

My name is Kevin Chang and I am the Executive Director of Kua'āina Ulu 'Auamo (or KUA). KUA works to empower grassroots rural and Native Hawaiian mālama 'āina groups to celebrate their places and pass on their traditions to better Hawai'i and achieve 'āina momona— an abundant, productive ecological system that supports community well-being. We employ a community-driven approach that currently supports a network of more than 31 mālama 'āina community groups collectively referred to as E Alu Pū (moving forward together), 40 fishpond projects and practitioners called the Hui Mālama Loko I'a, and a new and growing hui of Limu practitioners all from across our state.

**KUA supports HB 207 as an incremental step towards 'āina momona.** This bill would require members of state councils, boards, and commissions that have an impact on Native Hawaiian and public trust resources to attend a training course on their fiduciary duties in regard to those resources.

Many of the communities in the networks we facilitate focus on improving natural resource management and restoration of native ecological systems, values and ethics more sensitive to the needs of their wahi (their places). Quite often the issues they work to advance come before state and county councils, boards and commission dealing with historical and cultural sites, land, agriculture and water issues. When members of these decision-making bodies are uninformed of their fiduciary duties confusion often results in un-necessary delay and drain of resources sometimes even resulting in prolonged and personally taxing lawsuits.

We commend the Office of Hawaiian Affairs for the development and implementation of these training sessions and advancement of this important issue before you. However, the long term vision for these programs should ultimately be one embraced and furthered by the broader community.

Our communities are committed to ensuring the long-term health of our cultural and natural resources because they have depended on them for generations. This bill among others is an exciting trend towards increasing government's role as a partner with our communities to restore the abundance that we are all often so nostalgic about.

Professor Melody Kapilialoha MacKenzie  
Ka Huli Ao Center for Excellence in Native Hawaiian Law  
William S. Richardson School of Law, UH-Mānoa  
2515 Dole Street, Honolulu, Hawai'i 96822

**H.B. 207**

**Relating to Training**

Committee on Ocean, Marine Resources, & Hawaiian Affairs

Rep. Kaniela Ing, Chair

Rep. Nicole E. Lowen, Vice Chair

Hearing on Wednesday, February 4, 2015, at 9:30 a.m.

Mahalo for this opportunity to submit testimony in **support** of H.B. 207 relating to training of members of state councils, boards, and commissions on Native Hawaiian legal issues – especially the state's trust duties in relation to natural and cultural resources. I am a professor at the William S. Richardson School of Law and director of Ka Huli Ao Center for Excellence in Native Hawaiian Law.

Ka Huli Ao has partnered with the Office of Hawaiian Affairs to provide three Native Hawaiian Law training courses with the focus on the public land trust, water, traditional and customary rights, and iwi kūpuna or ancestral remains. Over 270 people have attended the day-long training courses. Most attendees were members of state and county boards, councils, and commissions or staff members. A number of state legislators and county councilmembers have also attended. The response to the training has been overwhelmingly positive. The evaluations of the training indicate that 75-80% of those responding believed that the training had increased their understanding and knowledge of the state's trust duties and responsibilities in each of the subjects covered by the training. When asked to identify the most important "take-aways" from the training, responses included:

- The difficult and huge responsibilities for us to respect and protect Hawaiian traditional and customary practices.
- The Public Land Trust is real and important.
- Water laws in Hawaii incorporate a concept of public trust.
- The historical basis of Native Hawaiian customary rights and practices.
- The counties do have an obligation to conserve and protect the State's natural resources.
- My understanding of water resource management in Hawai'i improved greatly.

We believe that the training courses have greatly increased the understanding of those who attended, and have given attendees the knowledge and tools to help in making difficult decisions. One additional benefit from the training is that attendees from different agencies and departments have been able to interact and share concerns and possible solutions with each other, building some common understanding and increasing cooperation among agencies and departments.

Ka Huli Ao has been honored to partner with OHA in this effort. We believe that it is important, particularly for newly-appointed members of councils, boards, and commissions, to be required to attend a training on areas of law that invariably affect Hawai'i's natural and cultural resources and the Native Hawaiian community. Mahalo for the opportunity to express our strong **support** for H.B. 207.

TO: Representative Kaniela Ing, Chair  
Representative Nicole E. Lowen, Vice Chair  
House Committee on Ocean, Marine Resources & Hawaiian Affairs

FROM: Sara L. Collins, Ph.D., President  
Society for Hawaiian Archaeology  
sara.l.collins.sha@gmail.com

HEARING: Wednesday, February 4, 2015 at 9:30 AM in Conference Room 325

SUBJECT: Testimony in SUPPORT of HB 207, Relating to Training

I am Dr. Sara Collins, President of the Society for Hawaiian Archaeology (SHA). We have over 150 members that include professional archaeologists and advocates of historic preservation in general. HB 207 amends Chapter 10, Hawaii Revised Statutes (HRS) to require the Office of Hawaiian Affairs (OHA) to administer a training course on native Hawaiian and Hawaiian rights. The amendments will also require members of certain state councils, boards, and commissions to attend the training course, and allow other state or county officers, representatives, or employees to request to enroll in the training course.

Since 2013, OHA has offered three such training courses attended by a broad range of state and county government officials. An overwhelming majority of the attendees found the course materials, content, and presentation to be very valuable. Upon completion, attendees felt that they had a better understanding of Native Hawaiian traditional and customary rights, natural resource protection, access rights, and the public trust.

HB 207 proposes to amend §10.2, HRS by adding a new part that requires the following actions:

- The training shall be required for members of the Land Use Commission, Board of Land and Natural Resources, Commission on Water Resource Management, Environmental Council, Board of Directors of the Agribusiness Development Corporation, Board of Agriculture, Legacy Land Conservation Commission, Natural Area Reserves Commission, Hawaii Historic Places Review Board, and the Board of Health. Such individuals shall complete the training course within 12 months of the members' initial appointments.
- At its own expense, OHA will establish, design, and administer the training course relating to Native Hawaiian and Hawaiian traditional and customary rights, Native Hawaiian and Hawaiian natural resource protection and access rights, and the public trust, including the State's trust responsibility. OHA shall offer the training course at least twice per year.
- The Governor shall provide to OHA the names of the persons required to take the training course within 30 calendar days of their initial appointments.

We support the subject bill and believe that a training course of this type will be valuable to incoming commissioners and others who may choose to take the course. We would only recommend that the required content include some basic information on State historic preservation law (Chapter 6E, HRS) as well as the content identified in HB 207.

Mahalo for considering our testimony. Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at the above email address.



**HB207**  
**RELATING TO TRAINING**

House Committee on Ocean, Marine Resources, and Hawaiian Affairs

February 4, 2015

9:30 a.m.

Room 325

The Office of Hawaiian Affairs (OHA) **STRONGLY SUPPORTS** HB207, which is a bill in OHA's 2015 Legislative Package. This bill would require the members of certain boards and commissions to attend a Native Hawaiian Law training course funded by OHA, and developed by third-party legal experts. Accordingly, HB207 represents an opportunity to ensure that key State policymakers understand and make decisions that are consistent with the State's fiduciary obligations to the Native Hawaiian people.

A training course in Native Hawaiian law for relevant board and commission members is necessary to fulfill the trust obligation and responsibility held by the State of Hawai'i towards Kānaka Maoli. The boards and commissions listed in HB207 administer resources and programs that directly impact Native Hawaiian traditional and customary rights, natural and cultural resources, and the public trust. As state entities, these boards and commissions have a duty to protect and enforce Native Hawaiian rights, and to administer the public trust in the interest of its beneficiaries, including Native Hawaiians. However, notwithstanding the broad range of expertise and experience of the individuals selected to serve on these boards and commissions, many may not possess knowledge of the unique legal rights and responsibilities that relate to the Native Hawaiians, or to the public trust. Unfortunately, this has likely contributed to a sense of disenfranchisement felt by many in the Native Hawaiian community, and policy decisions that have failed to uphold the duties of the State.

To address this problem, since 2013 OHA has offered a Native Hawaiian Law training course on a voluntary basis to state and county legislators, board and commission members, and other relevant individuals. This training course was developed in partnership with the Ka Huli Ao Center for Excellence in Native Hawaiian Law at the William S. Richardson School of Law, and has been presented in January 2013, January 2014, and July 2014. In total, over 250 individuals have attended the course, including members of all the boards and commissions enumerated in this bill. **Notably, training course attendees overwhelmingly indicated that as a result of the course, they better understood the State's legal responsibilities towards Native Hawaiians and the public trust.**

Requiring similar legal training for each member of the boards and commissions listed in this bill will ensure that *all* of these critical decisionmakers are provided with the information they need to successfully fulfill the state's legal obligations towards Native

Hawaiians and the public trust. Towards this end, OHA has and will continue to commit funds for the further development and administration of a Native Hawaiian Law training course, eliminating the need for appropriations from the state general fund.

As the constitutionally established body responsible for protecting and promoting the rights of Native Hawaiians, OHA is the appropriate agency to create and administer a Native Hawaiian Law training course. In creating OHA, the people of Hawai'i specifically recognized their obligations pursuant to the "public trust which includes among other responsibilities, betterment of conditions for" Native Hawaiians.<sup>1</sup> OHA's kuleana to serve as the agency responsible for the 1) performance, development, and coordination of programs and activities relating to Native Hawaiians, as well as 2) the assessment of policies and practices of other agencies impacting Native Hawaiians, is clearly consistent with HB207. In assessing the practices of agencies in this area, OHA finds it necessary to ensure that officials making decisions on Hawaiian issues have a basic understanding of those rights. This bill would ensure that understanding.

Therefore, OHA strongly urges the committee to **PASS** HB207. Mahalo nui loa for the opportunity to testify.

Center for Hawaiian Sovereignty Studies  
46-255 Kahuhipa St. Suite 1205  
Kane'ohe, HI 96744  
Tel/Fax (808) 247-7942  
Kenneth R. Conklin, Ph.D. Executive Director  
e-mail [Ken\\_Conklin@yahoo.com](mailto:Ken_Conklin@yahoo.com)  
Unity, Equality, Aloha for all



To: HOUSE COMMITTEE ON OCEAN, MARINE RESOURCES, & HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS

For hearing Wednesday, February 4, 2015

Re: HB207 RELATING TO TRAINING.

Requires OHA to administer a training course on native Hawaiian and Hawaiian rights. Requires members of certain state councils, boards, and commissions to attend the training course.

The bill says that OHA offered its training courses on three occasions to government officials on various boards and commissions, and that some of those officials took the course, and then some who took the course reported that they had found it helpful. How nice for OHA! Participation was voluntary, free of cost to those who took it and to their employers; and of course they were enthusiastic (or at least they were polite enough to their instructors to give a positive evaluation). How nice for those who took the course and for those who taught it!



This bill proposes to make the course mandatory for all members of a long list of boards and commissions. How awful it would be to force people to be brainwashed by OHA's political propaganda on highly controversial topics with no presentation of opposing views. Would any member of a board or commission dare to ask a question in class that challenges the correctness of what the OHA-designated teacher is saying, or disagrees with the opinions being presented? By analogy, imagine the situation of a middle-school student from a Christian fundamentalist family being forced to attend a sex-education course which graphically describes anal sex as normal behavior, and whose parents are denied the right to opt-out.

This bill places one state agency, OHA, in a position of authority over other state agencies by requiring employees to pass a course whose purpose is to brainwash them with the political views of OHA. Dozens -- perhaps hundreds -- of members of previously independent boards and commissions would now be placed under the direct authority and supervision of OHA, knowing that if they refuse to kow-tow to their OHA instructor they will be given a failing grade in this mandatory course and will then be ineligible to continue as a member of their board or commission.

For example, OHA has certain views regarding who owns the ceded lands and whether the state has a right to sell parcels of ceded lands. The Hawaii Supreme Court made a 5-0 decision upholding OHA's views. But on appeal, the U.S. Supreme Court ruled 9-0 that OHA's views are wrong. Can we expect OHA to teach correct information about who owns the ceded lands and whether the state can sell them?

For example, OHA has certain views about the Hawaiian revolution of 1893 that overthrew the monarchy, and points to the Blount Report of 1893 and the U.S. apology resolution of 1993 to bolster OHA's views. But those views are controversial, and are disproved by the Morgan Report issued by the U.S. Senate in 1894 and by the majority report of the Native Hawaiians Study Commission issued by a joint Senate/House commission in 1996. Can we expect OHA to provide both sides of this

controversy, or will OHA brainwash state employees by teaching only the views OHA endorses?

This bill would require government employees to learn about, and give deference to, the ancient Hawaiian religion as the justification for various state laws and practices regarding water rights for taro, protection of ancient burials, etc. It would constitute an establishment of religion contrary to the First Amendment of the U.S. Constitution; and it would also force employees who have no Hawaiian blood to bow to a religion which portrays people who do have Hawaiian blood as possessing an inherent God-given right to rule these islands.

This bill requires government employees to learn about "traditional and customary rights" of Native Hawaiians to ensure that in carrying out their duties, the employees will give respect and deference to Native Hawaiian beliefs and cultural values. For example, we might expect employees to be trained regarding sacred places, the reasons why taro patches are given special guarantees of access to water, the reasons why ancient burials must not be disturbed, etc.

Those topics, and many others, are based in the ancient Hawaiian religion, which has a creation legend which today's sovereignty activists (incorrectly) describe as portraying Native Hawaiians (and only Native Hawaiians) as genealogically the children of the gods and the brothers to these islands, and the younger brothers of the taro plant, in a way nobody ever can be who lacks a drop of native blood.

The Hawaiian religion is the only one to be given special deference under the terms of this bill; thus this bill would be an establishment of religion. Under terms of this legislation, government money will be used to indoctrinate government employees with a religious belief. Furthermore, the way that belief is likely to be taught can best be described as religious fascism because it justifies giving governmental authority over land-use decisions to a particular racial group.

In 1819, the year before the American missionaries came to Hawaii, the sovereign King Liholiho Kamehameha II, with his regent stepmother Queen Ka'ahumanu, and with Kahuna Nui (High Priest) Hewahewa, exercised sovereignty on behalf of all native Hawaiians to abolish the ancient religion, and ordered the destruction of the heiaus and burning of idols. Those ethnic Hawaiians who try to resurrect the ancient religion for political purposes disrespect the decision of their ali'is and ancestors. By seeking to elevate that ancient religion above all other religions, they disrespect the right to freedom of religion possessed by all Americans.

This committee should not disrespect the mainstream majority of today's ethnic Hawaiians, and the multiracial, multicultural people of Hawaii, by passing this bill.

## ing2-Mary

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, February 02, 2015 11:12 AM  
**To:** omhtestimony  
**Cc:** rangien2010@yahoo.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB207 on Feb 4, 2015 09:30AM

### **HB207**

Submitted on: 2/2/2015

Testimony for OMH on Feb 4, 2015 09:30AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Puanani Rogers	Ho`okipa Network - Kauai	Support	No

Comments: I strongly support OHA to administer a training course on native Hawaiian and Hawaiian rights. Requires members of certain state councils, boards, and commissions to attend the training course. What a great idea....finally someone is thinking about being attentive to Native Hawaiian rights. Mahalo a nui and please pass this bill! Puanani Rogers - Kupuna o Kauai

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## **Association of Hawaiian Civic Clubs**

P. O. Box 1135

Honolulu, Hawai'i 96807

### **HB 207 RELATING TO TRAINING HOUSE COMMITTEE ON OCEAN, MARINE RESOURCES & HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS**

Wednesday, 2/04/15; 9:30 a.m.; Room 325

Aloha Chairman Ing, Vice Chair Lowen and members of the Committee. I am Annelle Amaral, President of the Association of Hawaiian Civic Clubs(AHCC) here to testify in support of HB207 Relating to Training.

The first Hawaiian Civic Club was established in 1918 by Prince Kuhio when he was a Delegate to the Congress trying to get the Hawaiian Homestead Act passed. He realized that an advocacy organization at home in the Islands was needed and founded the first civic club with a group of Hawaiian leaders. Almost a century later, the civic clubs are still advocating on behalf of the Native Hawaiian people through sixty seven component clubs in Hawaii and sixteen states on the continent.

In January the AHCC Board of Directors held its quarterly meeting and the Office of Hawaiian Affairs legislative package was presented to us. The Directors agreed to support OHA's bills and agreed that with a new Governor, many new appointments, new legislators and even new residents it may be time to provide some background and context to those things that are important to Hawaiians.

We support this bill and the spirit in which it is offered to provide information to those who are uninformed and wish to learn more before making serious decisions with long term ramifications. We would hope that the legislature also sees the need. Mahalo.

Contact: [Jalna.keala2@hawaiiantel.net](mailto:Jalna.keala2@hawaiiantel.net)

Testimony Submitted to the  
Committee on Ocean, Marine Resources and Hawaiian Affairs  
In Support of HB207  
February 4, 2015, 9:30 a.m.  
Conference Room 325

Aloha Chair Ing, Vice Chair Lowen and members of the Committee,

My name is Kehaulani Lum, and I am the President of the Ali`i Pauahi Hawaiian Civic Club, a chartered member of the Association of Hawaiian Civic Clubs.

We strongly **SUPPORT HB207** which will require certain state boards and commission members to take a training course on Native Hawaiian rights and public trust law. We believe that it is important that these boards and commission members have the basic understanding about how their decisions affect Native Hawaiian traditional and customary practices, public trust resources, and protections for 'iwi kupuna and sacred sites. This bill takes a positive step forward in reaffirming the state's commitment to Native Hawaiians and communities across the state. I urge the committee to **PASS** this bill.

Mahalo nui loa.

## ing2-Mary

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Saturday, January 31, 2015 2:46 PM  
**To:** omhtestimony  
**Cc:** ahuntemer@aol.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB207 on Feb 4, 2015 09:30AM

### **HB207**

Submitted on: 1/31/2015

Testimony for OMH on Feb 4, 2015 09:30AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Angela Huntemer	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Aloha Chair Ing, Vice Chair Lowen and Committee Members, I support making the training of Board Members on State Commissions and other important positions in their duties and obligations to the Native Hawaiian Community mandatory. I support Bill 207 Mahalo.

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## ing2-Mary

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, February 02, 2015 12:14 PM  
**To:** omhtestimony  
**Cc:** auliig@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB207 on Feb 4, 2015 09:30AM

### **HB207**

Submitted on: 2/2/2015

Testimony for OMH on Feb 4, 2015 09:30AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Aulii Dudoit	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I strongly SUPPORT HB207 which will require certain state boards and commission members to take a training course on Native Hawaiian rights and public trust law. I believe that it is important that these boards and commission members have the basic understanding about how their decisions affect Native Hawaiian traditional and customary practices, public trust resources, and protections for 'iwi kupuna and sacred sites. This bill takes a positive step forward in reaffirming the state's commitment to Native Hawaiians and communities across the state. I urge the committee to PASS this bill.

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:: Leanne Kealoha Fox ::

2<sup>nd</sup> Congressional District

House District: 39  
Senate District: 18

February 2, 2015

**HB207**

**RELATING TO TRAINING**

House Committee on Ocean, Marine Resources, & Hawaiian Values

Aloha a welina mai nei e nā alaka'i:

It is with great enthusiasm that I write testimony to **STRONGLY SUPPORT** HB 207 relating to training.

I strongly **SUPPORT HB207** which will require certain state boards and commission members to take a training course on Native Hawaiian rights and public trust law. I believe that it is important that these boards and commission members have the basic understanding about how their decisions affect Native Hawaiian traditional and customary practices, public trust resources, and protections for 'iwi kupuna and sacred sites. This bill takes a positive step forward in reaffirming the state's commitment to Native Hawaiians and communities across the state. I urge the committee to **PASS** this bill

I urge the committee to **PASS** HB 207

Respectfully, me ka `oia`i`o.

Letter of Support for HB207

## ing2-Mary

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, February 02, 2015 8:58 AM  
**To:** omhtestimony  
**Cc:** bguerr4@yahoo.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB207 on Feb 4, 2015 09:30AM

### **HB207**

Submitted on: 2/2/2015

Testimony for OMH on Feb 4, 2015 09:30AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Benjamin Guerrero	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I strongly SUPPORT HB207 which will require certain state boards and commission members to take a training course on Native Hawaiian rights and public trust law. I believe that it is important that these boards and commission members have the basic understanding about how their decisions affect Native Hawaiian traditional and customary practices, public trust resources, and protections for 'iwi kupuna and sacred sites. This bill takes a positive step forward in reaffirming the state's commitment to Native Hawaiians and communities across the state. I urge the committee to PASS this bill.

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## ing2-Mary

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, February 02, 2015 1:03 PM  
**To:** omhtestimony  
**Cc:** akamaimom@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB207 on Feb 4, 2015 09:30AM

### **HB207**

Submitted on: 2/2/2015

Testimony for OMH on Feb 4, 2015 09:30AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Felicia Cowden	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I regularly attend boards and commission meetings, as well as report outcomes on community radio. I strongly SUPPORT HB207 which will require certain state boards and commission members to take a training course on Native Hawaiian rights and public trust law. Far too often, the "historic section 106" and cultural concerns surface at the end of the planning and development periods. Heartbreak and ethnic tension are acerbated due to a lack of understanding of cultural wisdoms and sensitivities by the board or commission at the onset of the issue discussion. Cultural training will offer positive directional change in many areas when these boards and commission members have the basic understanding about how their decisions affect Native Hawaiian traditional and customary practices, public trust resources, and protections for 'iwi kupuna and sacred sites. This bill takes a positive step forward in reaffirming the state's commitment to Native Hawaiians and communities across the state. I urge the committee to PASS this bill.

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## ing2-Mary

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, February 02, 2015 2:22 PM  
**To:** omhtestimony  
**Cc:** peepuhala@hotmail.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB207 on Feb 4, 2015 09:30AM

### **HB207**

Submitted on: 2/2/2015

Testimony for OMH on Feb 4, 2015 09:30AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Iolani Kuoha	Individual	Support	No

Comments: As a Native Hawaiian educator, I strongly SUPPORT HB207 which will require certain state boards and commission members to take a training course on Native Hawaiian rights and public trust law. I believe that it is important that these boards and commission members have the basic understanding about how their decisions affect Native Hawaiian traditional and customary practices, public trust resources, and protections for 'iwi kupuna and sacred sites. This bill takes a positive step forward in reaffirming the state's commitment to Native Hawaiians and communities across the state. I urge the committee to PASS this bill.

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## ing2-Mary

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**From:** Jon Ching <jching808@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 03, 2015 9:08 AM  
**To:** omhtestimony  
**Subject:** Testimony in SUPPORT of HB207, for 2/4/15 OMH Hearing at 9:30 a.m.

Aloha Chair Ing, Vice-Chair Lowen, and Members of the House Committee on Ocean, Marine Resources, & Hawaiian Affairs-

I strongly SUPPORT HB207 which will require certain state boards and commission members to take a training course on Native Hawaiian rights and public trust law. I believe that it is important that these boards and commission members have the basic understanding about how their decisions affect Native Hawaiian traditional and customary practices, public trust resources, and protections for 'iwi kupuna and sacred sites. This bill takes a positive step forward in reaffirming the state's commitment to Native Hawaiians and communities across the state. I urge the committee to PASS this bill.

Mahalo for your support!

Jonathan Ching  
Kapolei, HI

## ing2-Mary

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Friday, January 30, 2015 6:39 PM  
**To:** omhtestimony  
**Cc:** kalawaiag@hotmail.com  
**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for HB207 on Feb 4, 2015 09:30AM\*

### **HB207**

Submitted on: 1/30/2015

Testimony for OMH on Feb 4, 2015 09:30AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kalawai'a Goo	Individual	Support	No

### Comments:

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

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## ing2-Mary

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, February 02, 2015 11:18 PM  
**To:** omhtestimony  
**Cc:** kamakane73@gmail.com  
**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for HB207 on Feb 4, 2015 09:30AM\*

### **HB207**

Submitted on: 2/2/2015

Testimony for OMH on Feb 4, 2015 09:30AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kama Hopkins	Individual	Support	No

### Comments:

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## ing2-Mary

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, February 02, 2015 9:23 AM  
**To:** omhtestimony  
**Cc:** punihei@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB207 on Feb 4, 2015 09:30AM

### **HB207**

Submitted on: 2/2/2015

Testimony for OMH on Feb 4, 2015 09:30AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Punihei Lipe	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I strongly SUPPORT HB207 which will require certain state boards and commission members to take a training course on Native Hawaiian rights and public trust law. I believe that it is important that these boards and commission members have the basic understanding about how their decisions affect Native Hawaiian traditional and customary practices, public trust resources, and protections for 'iwi kupuna and sacred sites. This bill takes a positive step forward in reaffirming the state's commitment to Native Hawaiians and communities across the state. I urge the committee to PASS this bill.

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## ing2-Mary

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, February 02, 2015 7:18 AM  
**To:** omhtestimony  
**Cc:** Kawaihapai@hawaii.rr.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB207 on Feb 4, 2015 09:30AM

### **HB207**

Submitted on: 2/2/2015

Testimony for OMH on Feb 4, 2015 09:30AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Thomas T Shirai Jr	Individual	Support	Yes

Comments: I support HB 207 which I feel should be mandatory for applicable State Boards and Commissions such as Island Burial Councils and board of Land & Natural Resources. Furthermore it should also be given to entities such as DOCARE. Mahalo nui loa. Thomas T Shirai Jr.

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ing2-Mary

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, February 02, 2015 4:01 PM  
**To:** omhtestimony  
**Cc:** wctanaka@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB207 on Feb 4, 2015 09:30AM

**HB207**

Submitted on: 2/2/2015

Testimony for OMH on Feb 4, 2015 09:30AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Wayne	Individual	Support	No

Comments: The public trust in Hawai'i is an ancient, time-tested concept that is still alive today, in our constitution, statutes and case law. Unfortunately, the demand to exploit our public trust resources for private profit has persisted from the earliest Western contact through today. Administrators of Hawai'i's invaluable natural and cultural public trust resources should therefore have the opportunity to understand the public trust's unique history, legal requirements and responsibilities. Please pass this measure, and help give our policymakers the tools to defend our constitution and laws protecting our public trust resources!

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## ing2-Mary

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, February 02, 2015 10:46 PM  
**To:** omhtestimony  
**Cc:** ikaauwai@hotmail.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB207 on Feb 4, 2015 09:30AM

### **HB207**

Submitted on: 2/2/2015

Testimony for OMH on Feb 4, 2015 09:30AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Isaiah	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I strongly SUPPORT HB207 which will require certain state boards and commission members to take a training course on Native Hawaiian rights and public trust law. I believe that it is important that these boards and commission members have the basic understanding about how their decisions affect Native Hawaiian traditional and customary practices, public trust resources, and protections for 'iwi kupuna and sacred sites. This bill takes a positive step forward in reaffirming the state's commitment to Native Hawaiians and communities across the state. I urge the committee to PASS this bill. Mahalo for your support!

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I strongly **SUPPORT HB207** which will require certain state boards and commission members to take a training course on Native Hawaiian rights and public trust law. I believe that it is important that these boards and commission members have the basic understanding about how their decisions affect Native Hawaiian traditional and customary practices, public trust resources, and protections for 'iwi kupuna and sacred sites. This bill takes a positive step forward in reaffirming the state's commitment to Native Hawaiians and communities across the state. I urge the committee to **PASS** this bill.

Me ka 'oia'i'o,

J. Ekela Kaniaupio-Crozier

February 2, 2015

Aloha Chairman Ing,

As current chair of the Maui Lāna'i Islands Burial Council and I am writing to give my full support to HB 207 **which** will require certain state boards and commission members to attend a training course on Native Hawaiian rights and public trust law. Too often our decision makers lack the cultural sensitivity as well as the basic understanding of how their decisions impact the Hawaiian community, public trust resources, protections for iwi kupuna and wahi pana or historical sites. Requiring such training is fundamental to outcomes that are pono for Hawaiians and non-Hawaiians now and into the future.

I urge the committee to pass HB 207 as further assurance that the State is sensitive to the rights of its indigenous people as well as to public trust law which supports all residents of Hawai'i nei. Mahalo for your consideration of this important legislation.

Me ka 'oia'i'o,

Kapulani Antonio

## ing2-Mary

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 03, 2015 8:00 PM  
**To:** omhtestimony  
**Cc:** crystalkpaul@yahoo.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB207 on Feb 4, 2015 09:30AM

### **HB207**

Submitted on: 2/3/2015

Testimony for OMH on Feb 4, 2015 09:30AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Crystal Kia Paul	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I strongly SUPPORT and ask you PASS HB207, which will require certain state boards and commission members to take a training course on Native Hawaiian rights and public trust law. I believe that it is important that these boards and commission members have the basic understanding about how their decisions affect Native Hawaiian traditional and customary practices, public trust resources, and protections for 'iwi kupuna and sacred sites. This bill takes a positive step forward in reaffirming the state's commitment to Native Hawaiians and communities across the state.

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House Bill 207: Hawaiian Training  
Committee OMH  
February 4<sup>th</sup> 2015  
In Strong Support  
Rafael Bergstrom

**LATE**

Aloha Members of the Committee on Ocean, Marine Resources, and Hawaiian Affairs,

I would like to offer my strong support for HB 207 and its intent to instill our public officers, employees, and representatives with a stronger connection to the cultural past and present of these islands. History is such an important component to all of our existence and fostering a deep understanding of the people and way life that existed here for thousands of years prior is a necessity in understanding the current cultural climate that we live in. In order to foster stronger community bonds and include the diversity of our past into our future, it should be mandatory for those working in this state to be educated on the island way of life that has existed for thousands of years prior to the current structure. Diversity makes our world a better, more interesting place and it should be our duty to make sure that our cultural past is not marginalized.

Hawaiian cultural to this day has such strong ties to the land and natural resources and many of these connections should be instilled in a society today that seems to slip farther and farther away from a deep appreciation of the land. Our community in these islands could learn much from the past while still moving into the future with a modern ethos. To let the Hawaiian way of life be pushed aside and disregarded is a shameful action. I believe that all visitors and residents should be better educated in these realms so that we can all better understand each other as humans.

Having the Office of Hawaiian Affairs administer a training course in native Hawaiian culture and rights would be a step in a direction that includes the interests of the native people to these lands. Please give HB 207 your strong consideration and support this meaningful piece of legislation.

Thank you for your time and understanding.

Cheers,  
Rafael Bergstrom  
Oahu Chapter Coordinator, Surfrider Foundation